

TASK TEMPLATES

C. Drawing

Description

A student describes an image to his or her partner who draws it as accurately as possible. Afterwards, the students compare the drawing to the image and the class votes on the best reproduction. Students switch roles and do the same task with a different image.

Materials Needed

- a simple image, preferably a line drawing

Preparation

- Search for appropriate images online. There are many sites where you can download free clip art or simple line drawings.
- Make copies of two different images so that pairs may practice both roles (describing and drawing)

In Class

1. Tell the students the goal of this activity—draw the images as accurately as possible based on your partner’s description. If you wish to practice this activity as a whole class before attempting to do this in pairs, select a student to draw the image on the board. The rest of the class members will take turns describing the image and telling the drawer how far off target he or she may be.
2. Pre-teach any key phrases or vocabulary.
3. Admonish students who are describing their image to keep it hidden from their partners to discourage peaking. Hint: have students keep their images in their laps.
4. Give a time limit.

Further Suggestions

1. Try this activity with native speakers to determine the difficulty level of the activity. The difficulty level largely depends on the image. Abstract shapes and relationships are often very difficult to put into words. The more common the object, the easier it will be to describe and to draw. Make sure you choose objects that are describable and drawable!
2. Use your textbook to guide your image selection so that you target language items. Hint: Trace over images in your textbook to turn them into simple line drawings.